# WADCO NEWS

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# Growth of Our Mesh Department

**From its small beginning in Franklin to its present quarters.**

In the year 1909 Whiting & Davis Company began experimenting with mesh machines. These experiments proving successful, new machines were built which were sent to the little shop conducted in a store in Franklin. Here, mesh was turned out on a very limited scale.

This mesh was cut up into bags by about a half dozen of girls, and then those bags were brought down on the cars to the Plainville factory, where the work of assembling the frames and bags was carried out.

Even at this early date in the history of our mesh department, the machines were run by night and day shifts. In those days two operators were required to watch one machine, one on each side, to see that nothing went wrong. How different from the present time, when one fixer and three operators can handle about 30 machines in an able manner.

The efficiency of the machines was pretty low even with this close watching on the part of the operators, while now, owing to later improvements, a high degree of efficiency is maintained with much less work. The time when two operators were required for one machine passed, and it was proved that one operator to a machine could obtain as good, if not better results.

With these conditions it was found impossible to keep the production of mesh up to the demand, so with the addition of new machines, the old machines were moved from Franklin to the factory in Plainville. Up to this time most of our efforts had been confined to coarse, solid wire.

Now we began to experiment with solder-filled wire, and from that day to this have not been able to keep up with the demand for this kind of mesh.

In our new quarters we had to use power furnished by a gasolene engine, which was, to say the least, a little uncertain.

In February of the year 1912, the Company sent Mr. Berkley over to Paris to set up and get running the mesh machines which they had sent over there. This same year marked the removal of our firm to the new factory. Business had grown to such proportions that this was clearly necessary, and our mesh department was located in the room which is now occupied by the Gold Department B. This room even at that time was fairly filled with the many new mesh machines that had been put into operation.

In 1914, as business had again compelled us to build more machines, we became so congested that the new addition in which we are now located was built. New devices were thought up and new machines to aid the work of turning out finished bags were manufactured.

In 1920, the department again became so congested that it was deemed advisable to build another addition to take care of part of the machines. Into this addition the joining section have moved.

From the small beginning in Franklin we have grown to our present proportions.

We are still running part of these machines night and day making the solder-filled mesh that is so necessary to fill the present day demand.

Mesh is made in our department of steel, nickel silver solid wire, nickel silver solder-filled wire, green gold and red gold wire. This mesh is made in several sizes down to the fine No. 4 mesh that has been so popular.

New machines are still being manufactured and we are looking forward to the day when we will have to build another addition to house the many new machines needed to fill a growing demand.

Our slogan is: "Good mesh and plenty of it."

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Lost—Two jack knives. Finder please return and receive reward. "Engravers."

## A TRIP INTO OLD MEXICO.

*Walter Rice*

We left the Boston South Station the afternoon of March 12th, about forty of us, in two special Pullmans attached to the Wolverine, and a congenial crowd it was. There were many businesses represented. Men of middle age, who had made their mark in the business world, export men who had travelled the world over, and young men starting out for the first time in foreign fields. All for the same purpose, to gain a knowledge of business conditions as they exist in Mexico today.

Our route carried us out over the Boston and Albany Railroad; through our own beautiful Berkshire Hills, over the New York Central to Cleveland and thence by the Big Four Route into St. Louis, where we arrived the following night, shortly after seven o'clock. Our stay there was brief—Just long enough to stretch our legs, and to get a glimpse of a bit of the business part of the town. At eight o'clock we drew out of St. Louis attached to the Sunshine Special, headed for Fort Worth, Texas, where we were to make our first stop.

In the morning when we arose, we found that we were passing through the oil fields of Oklahoma. We could see the great derricks here and there denoting the locations of wells, with frequent drilling outfits scattered through the fields industriously exploring for hidden wealth.

As we passed on into Texas our course carried us through the great grazing lands of the state, where thousands of cattle could be seen feeding, unconsciously preparing themselves for market. On our arrival at Fort Worth we were greeted with true Texan cordiality by a group of the city's business men, including their picturesque Mayor, "Bill" Davis, who was introduced to us as a man "who can rope a steer, ride a bucking broncho and draw a gun with the best of them." We were driven in automobiles, through their beautiful and prosperous city, with its wonderful future, and around the shores of Lake Worth, an artificial body of water, the source of the

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## Wadco News

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# EDITORIALS

## THE IMPORTANCE OF MOUTH CLEANLINESS.

Your teeth form the cutting and grinding machine which prepares food for the stomach. When the machine is crippled by tooth decay, you suffer from toothache, dental infections carried to other parts. To prevent dental decay, remove its cause by keeping the teeth and mouth clean:

1. By thoroughly chewing food.
2. By passing floss silk or thread between the teeth all around the mouth after meals.
3. By carefully and thoroughly brushing the teeth with a tooth brush on arising in the morning, after each meal and on retiring at night.

The tooth brush, rightly used, works like a series of tooth picks. It should be so placed that its bristles rest against the gum, and, by a rotating motion, carried downward on the upper teeth, and upward on the lower teeth, on all inside and outside surfaces, displacing deposits between them. The grinding surfaces of the back teeth should also be vigorously brushed in all directions.

Mouth cleanliness will prevent pain, many bodily diseases, and much of the expense of dentists' bills.

In the whole range of hygiene, there is not any one single thing more important than the hygiene of the mouth.

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city's water supply, and a playground for the inhabitants.

The shore line of the lake extends for upwards of thirty miles, and a very fine system has been worked out, providing this shore line for camp sites. On a high, rocky bluff overlooking Lake Worth, the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine have built a very beautiful Mosque and it was here that there was served to us a real Texas Barbecue with all the "fixin's," a most appetizing meal which is to the Texan what the clam-bake is to the New Englander.

We were reluctant to leave this beauty spot, but our schedule called us, and as the sun was sinking behind the Texas hills we were again loaded into the friendly automobiles, headed for the city and our waiting Pullman cars.

Our next stop was at San Antonio, where we arrived the following morning, and were accorded a reception equal in its cordiality to that received the day before at Fort Worth. We found the city crowded with cattlemen. In off the ranches from all over Texas for their annual convention. Eight thousand of them! What manner of men they were with their wonderful physiques, and the glow of out-of-door life and health in their faces. It seemed to me that not one stood less than six feet high; but perhaps their height was exaggerated by their high Stetson cowboy hats.

In San Antonio we were shown the Alamo, famous for the massacre of its garrison of Texans by the Mexicans under Santa Ana, in 1836, taken to visit the ancient missions built centuries ago by the Spaniards for the conversion of the Indians, and driven through the beautiful Brackenridge Park, and the handsome residential and modern business sections. Our day was entirely and well spent in seeing San Antonio.

Once again our schedule reminded us that we must continue on our journey, so, in the early evening we pulled out of San Antonio with our destination Laredo, a live Texas city of 25,000 people on the Mexican border, and one of the principal gateways to the Mexican Republic.

We arrived in Laredo the following morning about 8 o'clock. Our passports were issued and baggage inspected by the Mexican officials. Then we were free for an hour to take a ride through the city. A group of the city's business men were there with their waiting automobiles, and soon we were rolling along to get a hurried idea of the attractions of this little city. We found Laredo to be one of the principal Mexican border ports-of-entry, with several large wholesale houses distributing merchandise through southern Texas and into Mexico. It is also a point from which great quantities of garden truck are shipped to northern markets. Here crops are grown twelve months in the year, all under irrigation, and on land that formerly was a desert.

At San Antonio we had been obliged to transfer to wooden Pullman cars and to add a well stocked dining car to the outfit. The transfer was necessary as the Mexican Railway officials feared their inability to handle the heavy steel cars on their steep grades and depreciated road beds, the dining-car an insurance that we would not be found starving in the Mexican desert.

On our return to the cars we found that the good people of Laredo had loaded our diner with huge hampers of freshly picked spinach, lettuce, onions and many vegetables, which later were very much enjoyed by us. Our train now pulled out over the International Bridge, with the muddy Rio Grande below us, and soon we were on Mexican territory in the town of Neuvo Laredo. Our locomotive was there detached and puffed its way back to the American side of the river. As we sat there in the cars on the siding, in front of the depot, we knew by the strange sights that we were in a foreign land. As one of the party spied directly across the way a saloon in full operation he shouted, "Hurrah! once more we are in the land of the free."

(To be continued.)

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After reading your article on "machine made chain" in the last issue of this paper, would like to say, that no one knows anything about machine made chain unless he has owned a motorcycle and been about forty miles from nowhere and had his chain leave. Ask Ed. Hurlin, he used to own one.

## TIPS ON DANCING.

Wear your old shoes to a dance.

Be careful that your feet don't run away with you.

Don't dance on your heels.

The ladies must dance where they are led, it will save much trouble.

Men: Please be careful. The ladies are often complaining about hitting the posts too often.

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Father Adam, lucky brute!
Had us moderns beat a mile,
Never found last summer's suit
Full of moths and out of style.

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Eve was lucky, too, for she
Was not censured, sir, by heck,
When her skirt was to the knee,
And her waist low in the neck.

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## MUCH BETTER WITHOUT.

"Have you a lawyer?" asked the judge of a young man brought before him.

"No sir," was the answer.

"Well, don't you think you had better have one?" inquired his honor.

"No, sir" said the youth. "I don't need one. I am going to tell the truth."

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## PAYING FOR IT!

A business-like man stepped into a butcher's shop. "A piece of beef for roasting!" he ordered briskly.

The meat, mostly bone, was thrown on the scales.

"Look here!" remonstrated the man. "You're giving me a big piece of bone!"

"Oh, no, I ain't," said the butcher blandly, "ye're payin' for it."

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Rose Boyle wants it distinctly understood that she is no "germ," but true IRISH.

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We would like to know who the handsome young man is who makes those eyes at Evelyn R. We like to see her blush, but we would like to warn him to keep one eye on John D.

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Wait till you see the "Auto" Officer Plante gets when he captures the missing forger. Yes, wait!

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Most every recess, Arthur Plante sings in French to Nancy Bell. It's good.

## SPORTING NEWS.

Since our last issue the sporting events have been on the blink, as the warm weather has showed itself before it was time, therefore curtailing the bowling contests that were scheduled to take place, although the very best event that has been bowled this winter was rolled between the so-called King Arthurs and the Sir Walter Raleighs, consisting of four girls on each team and captained by King Arthur and Sir Walter Raleigh. Miss Anderson put up a most wonderful three-string total, as follows—98, 98, 151, with a total of 347. Edith Cooke was a good second, with 93, 102, 105, with a total of 305. There are very few bowlers in the town who can show a much better average than this score. The match was for a five pound box of Huyler's and it was paid by the Raleighs.

The following is the box score:

KING ARTHURS

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Edith Cooke | 93 | 102 | 105 | 305 |
| Tina Gauvin | 98 | 80 | 74 | 252 |
| Edith Anderson | 98 | 98 | 151 | 347 |
| Florence Whiting | 83 | 81 | 77 | 241 |
| King Arthur | 123 | 91 | 121 | 335 |
| | 495 | 452 | 528 | 1475 |

SIR WALTER RALEIGHS

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vivian Passmore | 84 | 85 | 104 | 273 |
| Mildred Miller | 110 | 86 | 94 | 290 |
| Mary Ireland | 84 | 86 | 104 | 274 |
| Louise King | 88 | 97 | 77 | 262 |
| Walter Raleigh | 103 | 122 | 112 | 337 |
| | 469 | 476 | 491 | 1436 |

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This week we received a challenge from the girl bowlers over in the Middleboro plant. They no doubt have been looking up the scores in the "Wadco News" and have come to the conclusion that they have a team that they would like to try conclusions with the soldered mesh team No. 1. In fact, they have challenged that team thinking they are soft, so the soldered mesh team have decided to go over there and try to trim them. All the trouble will be is who of the owners of automobiles in the shop will volunteer to take them over. Now, boys, don't all speak up at once, but some of you are good sports enough to see that they get there and back. The night has not been set yet for the event.

Our field, owing to the weather, is not seeded as yet, but cheer up; we will be out there before the summer is over. The Twilight League is a fixture this year as it was last and the W&D, will put in a first-class team this year as some new talent has been discovered in the factory.

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We expect to call a mass meeting of all the employees soon to form an athletic association, so as we can carry on all sports under a regular head. When this meeting is called all try and be there to help it along.

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Saxie Metcalf says he will be glad when summer comes, as he has a one-piece bathing suit to try out.

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## MIDDLEBORO NEWS.

When Mr. Crotty came to town
He lived in hourly fear
Of getting strayed or stolen;
(Did he think he'd keep them here?)

The numerous streets confused him
But at length he reached the "Y"
Then remained within the building
Until a friend of his came by.

He kept that friend beside him
Nor let him from his sight
Until it dawned upon him
'Twas time to say good-night.

We presume he slept in comfort,
Arrayed in the night-shirt gay
Which he felt obliged to purchase
Before he "hit the hay."

And sundry other trifles.
Made his ten-spot disappear.
Why! he almost had to borrow
To get away from here.

At five o'clock in the morning
He arose and dressed with speed,
For the train was due at eight,
His time was short indeed.

Upon arriving at the depot
As the train was not yet due,
He walked the track, to meet it
And disappeared from view.

When necessity compels you
To send down here a man
Select him very carefully
And don't send one like Dan.

—H. E. G.

## CAUGHT IN THE MESH

Charlie, in the wash room, is wearing his boots so long we are beginning to wonder if he is bootlegging.

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This world's an awful funny place,
And folks are funny, too.
Each one would like to change things round
To suit his point of view.
If everyone was satisfied
With everything to-day,
Then some darn fool would go and change it
Round the other way.

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Renboch has discovered a new way to stop his car. He drives between two stumps that catch his front wheels.

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Newly Wed—"Nothing like it, my boy. You just marry a sweet girl, like my wife, for instance, and settle down—one that is not afraid to share your lot for better or worse."

Confirmed Bachelor (unconvinced)—"Sounds nice, but some of these shareholders blossom into directors."

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Johnny Hill will surely have to put blinders on if he keeps looking at Maybelle Ingalls instead of at his work.

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I hope the next time Sophie H. runs for the car that all the obstacles such as dogs and children will get out of her way, as the last time she fell over a dog and a little boy.

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Ask Lillian B. what is the attraction in church: the sermon or sitting with T. Price?

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Dan Crotty says, "If you want to save money, smoke someone else's cigarettes." How about it, Vic?

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Try Mrs. Keach's new yeast cake remedy for indigestion. Miller says it's great.

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Ed. Hoffman, Bill Card and Charles Nash, the Indian Relic Hunters, are planning another expedition to the wilds of Norton. No doubt the trip will be a success, as we have heard, on the quiet, that Charles has discovered the lost art of making Arrow Heads.

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The engravers regret the passing of the "Agony Quartet." Percy Rhodes and Arthur Boehnke being transferred to the repair department spoiled the combination.

Many of the employees who have been entertained by the wonderful creations of our popular cartoonist held a meeting to see what could be done to show their appreciation. It was finally decided to appoint a committee which was instructed to see if it could obtain a photograph for the "Wadco." This committee, upon approaching our popular cartoonist was greeted by these words: "Well, folks, what can I do for you?" After a long hour of persuading, he was finally prevailed upon to draw his own picture, as he absolutely refused to break the camera for us.

The above picture he guarantees to be true to life and much better than any camera-man could produce.

The committee are uncertain whether to agree with him or not.

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Pete—"Indeed, you've a fine house here, Pat, but it's full of rats—they're all over the place. Why don't you do something for them—get 'em some rat biscuits?"

Pat—"To hell with 'em! If they don't like what I eat, they can get out."

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### Probably.

Miss Wheat, the new teacher, was hearing the history lesson. Turning to one of the new scholars, she asked:

"James, what was Washington's Farewell Address?"

The new boy arose with a promptitude that promised well for his answer.

"Heaven, ma'am," he said.

Anyone wishing to learn how to drive a "flivver" apply to Charles Bates. He guarantees full education in one lesson. In fact, after taking one lesson, pupil will be unable to take more.

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H. Denzer believes in helping starving Ireland. If you doubt this, ask John Bunch. He knows.

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Rather early for roses, but they seem to be growing in the Billing and Order Department.

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Wanted: A man capable to compete with Ralph Spence in chewing gum.

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We hear that Helen Jedlenski is taking piano lessons from William Kenney. What next? Is the——?

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Peggy Rountry is going to change her name to Juliet since Romeo has been around.

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Joe Miller is taking dancing lessons because he has made a date to take Tessa up to Lake Pearl.

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Rhea likes to see that one o'clock train pull in. Ask her why.

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Something we would like to know: Is Martha P. a daisy? Answer: No, 'cause daisies don't tell.

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We "Greve" to say that Frank Gaddes caught one of our chickens in his "coupe" the other day.

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The questions handed in, in regard to the Athletic Association, will undoubtedly be answered in the next issue of the "Wadco News."

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### WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.

Who is the Athletic Association? Is it a few men who sit in the shop and plan what is going to be done, or is it the men who go out and fill in ditches and dig trenches? Whom do you have to see to join? Who are the officers? Does this Association ever have any meeting? There are a lot of men who would like to join and do all they can to make the Association a success, but lacking some of this information, do not know how, where, when, or who.